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Note verbale dated 7 March 2013 from the Permanent Mission of Cuba to the United Nations addressed to the Secretary-General

The Permanent Mission of Cuba to the United Nations, in its capacity as President Pro Tempore of the Community of Latin American and Caribbean States, presents its compliments to the Secretary-General and would be grateful if the Executive Office of the Secretary-General would circulate the present note and the communiqué of the Community of Latin American and Caribbean States on the decease of Commander President Hugo Chávez Frías (see annex) as a document of the General Assembly, under agenda item 15, entitled "Culture of peace".

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Annex to the note verbale dated 7 March 2013 from the Permanent Mission of Cuba to the United Nations addressed to the Secretary-General

Communiqué of the Community of Latin American and Caribbean States on the decease of Commander President Hugo Chávez Frías

6 March 2013

The members of the Community of Latin American and Caribbean States and the peoples of our America received with dismay and deep sorrow the news of the death of the Commander President of the Bolivarian Republic of Venezuela, Hugo Rafael Chávez Frías, on Tuesday, 5 March 2013.

We express our most heartfelt condolences to the family of Commander President Chávez, the Government of the Bolivarian Republic of Venezuela and the Venezuelan people, to whom he devoted his life. His permanent dedication to the sovereignty and integration of our nations and to the development of solidarity between the peoples of our region; his dedication to the eradication of poverty and inequality in Venezuela and in our region; and his decision to work for the achievement of a united, strong and secure Latin America and the Caribbean, are values that have nourished the Community of Latin American and Caribbean States. For the Community, of which he was one of the founders and driving forces, the example of Commander President Chávez encourages us to redouble our efforts for Latin American and Caribbean unity, cooperation, solidarity and integration. This is the best tribute that the peoples of Latin America and the Caribbean can pay to Commander President Hugo Chávez Frías.